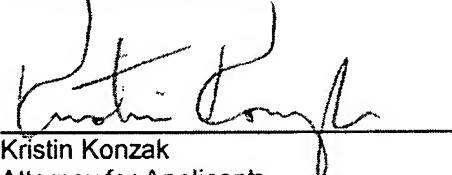


Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-7 and 15-17 are pending. Claims 18-26 are hereby canceled to ease prosecution, although Applicants reserve the right to pursue the canceled subject matter in a later filed application. Cancellation of claims 18-26 renders all rejections moot, and a statement to that effect is requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-7 and 15-17 are allowed.
Applicants request that an official notice of allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,


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